

## WEST VIRGINIA BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT COUNCIL

Wednesday, January 9, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.

The meeting of the West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council was held in Building 6, Room 6A on Wednesday, January 9, 2013, at 9:00 a.m.

### **The following members participated:**

Chris Ferro  
Dana Waldo  
Jeff Wise  
Jim Martin  
Gale Given

Lee Fisher (via phone)  
Michael Kelemen (via phone)  
Elaine Harris  
Dr. Jan Fox

### **Additional participants:**

Andrea Rayl  
James McCormick  
Chris Clark (via phone)  
Eric Eyre  
Tony Simental  
Mark Holmes  
Kevin Lazor  
Evelyn Bailey (via phone)  
Billy Jack Gregg  
LeeAnn Shreve  
John Hohn  
Marcel Fortin  
Scott Cosco  
Chris Morris

Tom Bennett  
Ray Harrell  
Nichole Marsh  
Tracy Mallow  
David Rogers  
Sandy Hawkins  
Cheryl Stiles  
Andrew Clark  
Tory Varney  
Doren Burrell  
Jack Smith (via phone)  
Paul Kamienski (via phone)  
Brenda Williams

After a quorum was established, Vice-Chair Ferro welcomed the Council and called the meeting to order at 9:08am.

### **Business**

Vice-Chair Ferro asked for the approval of the minutes from the December meeting of the Broadband Deployment Council. The Council approved the minutes with no objection.

### **Other Business**

Doren Burrell submitted and explained a draft of a general format for grant agreements. There were some areas in the draft agreement that were changed by the Council.

1. The Council decided to require a grant agreement for each project;
2. To require progress reports for the projects;
3. To require verification that no resources are being used for existing service;
4. The right of first refusal; and
5. The grantee is subject to any legislative changes.

Dana Waldo made the motion to approve the draft grant agreement. The motion was seconded by Jim Martin; motion passed with no objection.

Jim Martin started discussion on the definition of broadband.

As a result of this discussion a Sub-Committee was formed, by vote of the Council, to draft a letter for the Council to send to providers to ask for additional data as well as to draft proposed legislation that would address broadband speeds. Jim Martin volunteered to Chair this subcommittee and Lee Fisher agreed to participate as a member. The Chair will be asked to populate the rest of the sub-committee.

The next topic of business was the potential for a second round of grant funding. Dana Waldo made a motion to open a second round of grant funding for demand grants only. The motion was seconded by Gale Given; motion failed.

Doren Burrell provided an update on the Council's legislative rules as reviewed by the Legislative Rulemaking Committee. Gale Given made the motion that the Council accepts the proposed changes. Jim Martin seconded the motion and was approved by the Council with no objection.

### **Public Comment**

Paul Kamienski asked whether a letter was sent to applicants who were not funded explaining why an applicant was not funded or what the application needs to be a stronger application. Doren answered that letters were only sent informing applicants if they had been funded or not.

LeeAnn Shreve commented that she was concerned about funded grants in light of new information that may be discovered as a result of new maps.

James McCormick voiced his displeasure that the Council did not approve a demand grant addressing veterans' issues.

Troy Martin, also a veteran, asked that the demand grant addressing veterans' issues be funded.

Cheryl Stiles echoed the statements made by Mr. McCormick and Mr. Martin as well as thanking the Council for funding some grantees which have helped improve accessibility.

The next meetings have been scheduled for:  
March 13

April 10

May 8

The meetings will all be held in Building 6, Room 6A at 9:00am.

### **Adjournment**

The next meeting has been noticed for February 12, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. in Building 6, Room 6A. The call-in number and agenda will be provided prior to the meeting.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.